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REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for his recognition of allowable subject matter in claims 12 and 13.

Applicants also thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 4, 8-11, 14 and 15 would be allowable if rewritten to include all limitations of the base claim and all intervening claims. Applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 8. Claims 9 and 10, which depend from claim 1, now also incorporate the subject matter of claim 8. Similarly, Applicants submit that claims 14 and 15 are now in condition for allowance, since they depend from claim 1.

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Siklosi et al., WO 99/21797. The Examiner asserts that Siklosi discloses all recited steps of the presently claimed process for making nanosized zeolite A. Applicants submit that Siklosi does not disclose a process for making Zeolite A that uses seed crystals of Zeolite A having particle sizes of less than 500nm. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Siklosi does not disclose, teach, or suggest the process according to claim 1 as presently amended.

Claims 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious over, each of Zhu et al., "Synthesis and Characterization of High-Quality Zeolite LTA and FAU Single Nanocrystals", and Otterstedt et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,863,516. Claim 16 is being amended to recite a product comprising nano-sized Zeolite A crystal particles prepared by the process of Claim 1 wherein 95% of particles have a particle size distribution of 50 to 150 nm. This amendment introduces no new matter, and is supported in the specification as filed, *inter alia*, on page 9, lines 3-6. Applicants submit that neither Zhu nor Otterstedt disclose or suggest a Zeolite A having such a particle size distribution. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 16 and 17 are patentable over Zhu and Otterstedt.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, allowance of all of pending claims 1-17 of the above-referenced application is respectfully requested.

Should there be any remaining issues regarding the present claims, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone Applicants' undersigned representative to discuss same.

Respectfully submitted,



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